<u>WE CLAIM</u>:

1.   A window management system, comprising:

a frame window;

at least one pane window located within said frame window, each at least one pane window occupying a respective space within said frame window and having a minimum pane window size; and,

a split command for dividing a selected one of said at least one pane window into two pane windows each having a minimum pane window size, said split command determining whether the minimum pane window size for the divided pane windows could fit within the space occupied by the selected pane window and, if so, then dividing the selected pane window into the two pane windows to occupy the entire space of the selected pane window.

2.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein a unique application operates in each of a plurality of said at least one pane window.

3.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein if the minimum pane window size for the divided pane windows cannot fit within the space occupied by the selected pane window, then the selected pane window is not divided into the two pane windows.

4.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein said split command divides the selected pane window horizontally.

5.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein said split command divides the selected pane window vertically.

6.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein said at least one pane window cannot overlap with any other of said at least one pane window.

7.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein all of said at least one pane windows are simultaneously displayed in said frame window.

8.   The window management system of claim 1, wherein said window management system is implemented within an application.

9.   A window management system, comprising a frame window, a plurality of pane windows located within said frame window, each of said pane windows having a view and simultaneously displayed in said frame window, and a move command for moving the view from a first pane window to a second pane window.

10.   The window management system of claim 9, wherein said move command also moves the view from the second pane window to the first pane window.

11.   The window management system of claim 9, wherein if the view of the second pane window is occupied, then splitting the second pane window into a third pane window having

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the view of the second pane window and a fourth pane window having the view of the first pane window.

12.   The window management system of claim 11, wherein each of said plurality of pane windows is divided into sections and said move command comprises dragging the view from the first pane window to a selected one of the sections of the second pane window, the splitting of the second window being based upon the selected section.

13.   The window management system of claim 9, further comprising deleting the first pane window.

14.   The window management system of claim 9, wherein a unique application operates in each of a plurality of said plurality of pane windows.

15.   A window management system, comprising:

a frame window;

a plurality of pane windows located within said frame window, each of said pane windows occupying a respective space within said frame window; and,

a close command for closing one of said plurality of pane windows, said close command closing said one of the plurality of pane windows and maximizing the remaining pane window or pane windows to occupy the entire space of the closed pane window.

16.   A window management system, comprising a primary frame window, a plurality of pane windows located within said frame window, each of said pane windows occupying a respective space within said frame window and simultaneously displayed in said frame window, and a float command, said float command creating a secondary frame window, removing a selected pane window from within said primary frame window and locating the removed pane window in the secondary frame window.

17.   The window management system of claim 16, wherein the secondary frame window is independent of said primary frame window.

18.   The window management system of claim 16, wherein the secondary frame window is closed if the primary frame window is closed.

19.   The window management system of claim 18, further comprising a plurality of views, each view located in one of the plurality of pane windows, and a move command for moving one of the views from its pane window into a different pane window.